

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE
DPC Sub-Committee for Review of Overview and Introductory Text
September 9, 2009 Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

Linda Fiack, Delta Protection Commission (DPC), and Dorian Fougères, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), CSUS, welcomed members of the DPC sub-committee. The meeting purpose was to provide high-level feedback and direction to project staff on how to best revise the draft Management Plan introduction and overview, and the introductory text for each element. This included reviewing comments on the text submitted in advance by Sub-Committee member Marina Brand, who could not attend the meeting in person.

2. Review of Introduction and Overview Text

Sub-committee members recommended combining the Introduction and Overview sections, with the first paragraph of the Overview now becoming the second paragraph of the combined section, and the final sentences (about the term “shall” and a possible revision every 5 years) remaining at the very end. The mention of continued agricultural use of the land was moved to the Agriculture element. The last sentence of the Introduction paragraph on climate change was moved to the start of the paragraph. Some minor editorial revisions were also suggested to tighten up particular sentences without losing any of their meaning.

3. Revisions to Introductory Text in Individual Elements

In the Natural Resources element, the sub-committee recommended revising the language regarding earthquakes; regarding subsidence; and regarding flood threats. The factors listed as affecting the ecosystem were all changed to bullets (rather than a mix of prose and bullets), and export pumping was added. The group also recommended revising the paragraph explaining the effects of export pumping to be more general and accurate, and to combine this with the subsequent paragraph about reverse flows. Some mention of the importance of fisheries was also suggested.

Under Utilities and Infrastructure, it was recommended to delete “Sacramento-San Joaquin” from before “Delta” to be consistent with phrasing in the rest of the plan. It was recommended to tighten the paragraphs regarding local government regulation of water, and note their permitting responsibilities. Some mention of electrical transmission and pipelines was also recommended, and clarification that small air operations exist in the Delta.

Under Land use, it was recommended to clarify that Rio Vista is partly within the Primary Zone, but not part of the Secondary Zone. The description of parcel sizes was deleted, as it was overly general and could be confusing or restrictive. The reference to specific conservation plans were deleted (the other choice was to list all 10). Language was suggested to indicate that increasing concern exists for the potential for urbanization and projects in the Secondary Zone to impact resources of the Primary Zone.

Under Agriculture, reference to olives and blueberries was added. The reference to the economic value of Delta water rights was deleted, as it could send the wrong message about the value of water to Delta residents. Adding a reference to the Williamson Act was suggested, and the Sub-Committee recommended flagging this addition and section for the full Commission.

Under Water, the sentence regarding impaired water bodies was clarified to note that portions of the watershed within the Delta were impaired.

No changes were made to the Recreation and Access text.

Under Levees, it was recommended to confirm whether the Central Valley Flood Protection Board has primary responsibility for “project levees” that are part of the authorized federal flood control project.

Under the Implementation section, the opening phrase “implementation issues” was changed to “policy implementation.” No other changes were made.

4. Attendance

In room:

Bob Ferguson
Jan Vick

Comments for discussion

provided in advance via email:

Marina Brand

By telephone:

Roberta Goulart

Staff:

Linda Fiack, DPC
Judi Quan, DPC
Alex Westhoff, DPC

Consultants:

Doug Brown, Douglas
Environmental
Dorian Fougères, Center for
Collaborative Policy